



U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Chairman

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News Advisory

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Immigration Subcommittee to Examine Amnesty Provisions in Senate's Immigration Legislation

- What:** Hearing titled, "Should We Embrace the Senate's Grant of Amnesty to Millions of Illegal Aliens and Repeat the Mistakes of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986?"
- Who:** Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Claims – Rep. John N. Hostettler (R-Ind.), Chairman
- When:** 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 18, 2006
- Where:** 2141 Rayburn Building

Congress this year is attempting to address numerous problems created and exacerbated by the failure of the enforcement of the 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act, yet the Senate has endorsed legislation eerily similar to it. In May, the Senate passed legislation, S. 2611, which proposes granting amnesty to most of those here illegally, just as the 1986 law did. In fact, Black's Law Dictionary states under its definition of "amnesty", "The 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act provided amnesty for many undocumented aliens already present in the country."

The 1986 amnesty was promised as a one-time amnesty to address the problem of a few million people living and working here illegally. Twenty years later, there are an estimated 11 million illegal immigrants in the United States.

PROBLEMS...

- ✓ The 1986 amnesty has actually made the illegal immigration problem much worse by encouraging more people to reside and work illegally in the U.S. because they believe they will eventually receive their own amnesty.
- ✓ Each year hundreds of thousands of new illegal immigrants stay in the U.S., drawn primarily by the promise of better work in the U.S., despite the law against hiring illegal workers. Enforcement of the 1986 law's employer sanctions against those who hire illegal immigrants remains a glaring failure.

THIS HEARING WILL...

- ⇒ Examine the wisdom and prospects for success of the Senate-passed legislation, which replicates the failed amnesty program of 1986.
- ⇒ Question whether an amnesty program will help prevent illegal immigration.

WITNESSES: Mrs. Phyllis Schlafly, President, Eagle Forum; Mr. Steven Camarota, Director of Research, Center for Immigration Studies; Mr. James R. Edwards, Jr., Adjunct Fellow, Hudson Institute; and Rep. Silvestre Reyes (D-Tex.).

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